

Sanders County High Bridge Renovation Project

Presentation to
Montana State Long Range Planning Committee
February 3, 2009

History of the High Bridge

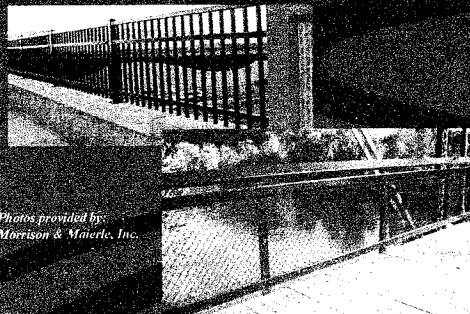
- Constructed in 1911
- By O.E. Peppard; Designed by William Cowles
- Longest bridge still standing of this type
- Built to facilitate Hydro-electric project
- Significant in logging, mining and electric power to Western Montana & Northern Idaho
- Included in the National Register of Historical Places, Oct. 1986
- Part of the "Hydro-Electric Dam Historical District"
- Closed late 1970's



Photo Provided by: Morrison & Mauter, Inc.

Proposed Bridge Improvements

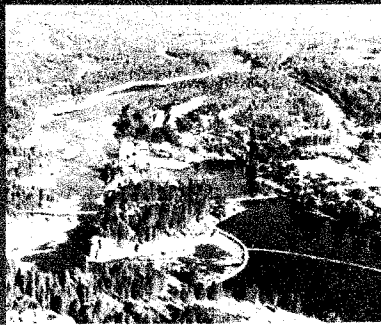
- New Rail (rail picket or coated chain link - 48" high)
- New Deck (new treated wood panel - 12'6" wide)
- New Steel Stringer System
- New Steel Beams over 3 Spans (South End)
- Rehabilitate & Strengthen Select Truss Members
- Clean Structural components & apply corrosion inhibitor



*Photos provided by:
Morrison & Maierle, Inc.*

Value of High Bridge Renovation

- Historical Significance
 - Preserve Historic & Cultural resource
 - Give reverence to Town Heritage



High Bridge →
Cherry Creek Area

Thompson Falls Proper
Area

Photo provided by Realty Northwest

Value of High Bridge Renovation

▪ Economic

- Convenient access to services & shopping for Cherry Creek residents
- Increase tourism
- Provide alternate mode of travel for commuting workers
- Attract organized group & community events
- Improve real estate values
- Short term revenue from construction workers
- Avoid cost of demolition & potential liability



Photo Provided by: Dave Bennett Realty

Value of High Bridge Renovation

▪ Recreational

- Provide easier access to fishing areas
- Promote healthy recreational opportunities (biking, walking, running, etc.)
- Compliment existing facilities (Island Park)
- Interface with area planned trails & paths
- Open access to Forest Service trails
- Offer scenic options (photography, wildlife viewing, bird-watching, etc.)

High Bridge →



*Photo Provided by: The Library of Congress,
Jet Lowe, Photographer*

Value of High Bridge Renovation

- Civic Pride & Responsibility
 - Foster Sense of Community between Thompson Falls & Cherry Creek residents
 - Eliminate an eye sore & potential hazard
 - Improve the aesthetics & beauty of the area
 - Provide safer route for pedestrians & cyclists
 - Serve as emergency & evacuation access
 - Reduce liability concerns



Photo Provided by: Morrison & Mather, Inc.

Other Funding Partners

- We are also applying for or have received:
 - Community Transportation Enhancement Program
 - State Programs
 - Federal Funding
 - Private Foundations & Grants
 - Fund-raising & personal contributions

Summary

- Goal is to renovate a Historical Bridge
- Preserve a Cultural Resource
- Create a Sense of Community and Pride
- Provide a missing link in non-motorized transportation system
- Improve economic value of the area
- Provide direct access to services, schools, medical and jobs
- Improve the aesthetics and beauty of a pristine area
- Promote healthy recreational opportunities
- Protect our heritage for generations to appreciate

Sanders County High Bridge Renovation Project

"Bridges are monuments to the people and communities that built them"
Kitty Henderson, Historic Bridge Foundation

Thank you!

SANDERS COUNTY HIGH BRIDGE

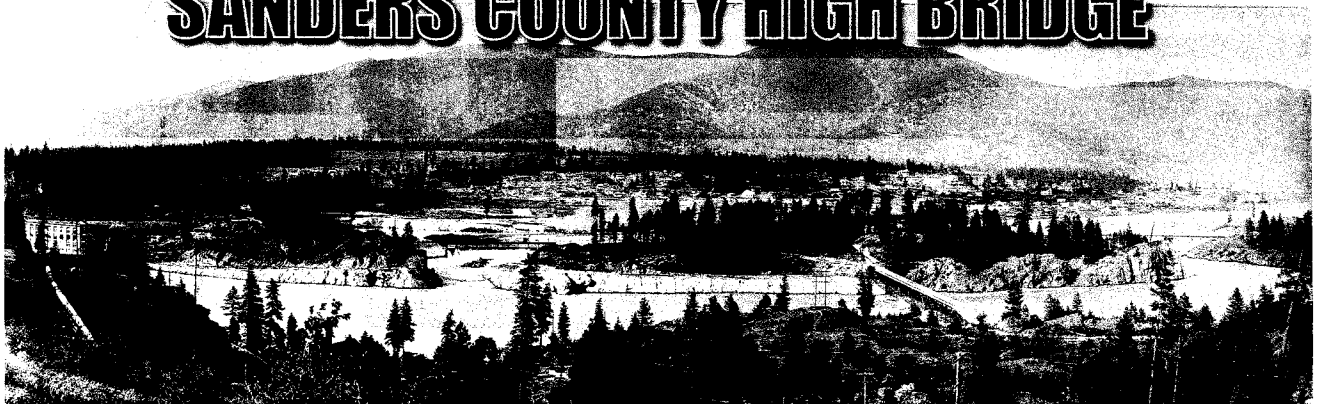


Photo courtesy of VFW, Plains, Montana circa 1920